

Drive Toys

Disk Drive Utilities for Windows and Windows NT

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NOTE: This document will not be copied to your hard disk by the installation procedure. For future reference, you may want to print a copy now or manually copy the file to a folder of your choice on your hard disk.

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1. Features

The **Drive Toys** feature two disk-related utilities for Windows and Windows NT: **DriveMenu** and **DriveX**.

DriveMenu

If you're sick of always having to minimize or rearrange the windows on your desktop or work your way through the "Start" menu just to access a disk drive, then **DriveMenu** is just what the doctor ordered.

DriveMenu is a small utility that allows you quick access to any drive (including network connections) directly from the Windows taskbar.

Here are some of DriveMenu's features:

- Fast, easy access to any drive on the system
- Easy to install
- Customizable settings
- Choose whether the menu items open a regular browsing window or an Explorer window
- Optionally display disk maintenance tools in the menu (ScanDisk and Defrag under Windows or Disk Administrator under Windows NT)
- *You* decide which mouse button (or buttons) bring up the menu on the taskbar

- Optionally display menu items for managing network drives or browsing the Network Neighborhood.
- Menu items support the use of high color icons (if Microsoft Plus! is installed)
- Can be uninstalled using "Add/Remove Programs" from the Control Panel
- Low memory and resource usage

DriveX

DriveX is an extension to the Windows shell that adds two new pages to the "Properties" dialog for all drives on the system (including drives connected over the network).

DriveX Features:

- On the **Volume Information** page, you'll find detailed information about the selected drive including the volume serial number, compression state, cluster size, number of used clusters, number of free clusters, etc. Normally, you'd have to run Windows' ScanDisk or run CHKDSK from the command prompt to get this information. DriveX saves you the effort!
- The **File System** page reports the file system used on the selected volume and displays the most significant characteristics of the file system.
- On partitions that use the FAT file system, you can let DriveX perform a **storage efficiency analysis** which shows how much of your drive is actually occupied by data, and how much "slack" (unusable space due to cluster size) the drive has. The results are clearly presented in the familiar "pie chart" format, so you can see at a glance how much of your partition is effectively being used. The analysis can help you decide whether or not you should repartition the drive to create smaller partitions (resulting in smaller clusters), thereby making more efficient use of your storage capacity.

Note: Because Windows allows any number of drive properties dialogs to be open at any one time, it is theoretically possible to run a storage efficiency analysis on several drives simultaneously. Because of this possibility, DriveX has been programmed to be completely "thread safe". This means that the analyses run totally independent of one another within the Explorer process. You will not crash the system or do any harm to your drives if you do decide to run more than one analysis at once. Most users probably wouldn't do it anyway, but...because Windows won't stop you from trying it, DriveX had to allow it.

- DriveX can be uninstalled using "Add/Remove Programs" from the Control Panel

2. Distribution, etc.

The Drive Toys are **freeware**. You may use them absolutely free for as long as you like. The author does, however, retain all rights to the software.

You may make any number of exact copies of the original software and accompanying documentation and freely distribute these copies on disk or via electronic means. The copies must include the following files, unmodified and in their entirety:

<i>File</i>	<i>Size in bytes</i>	<i>Description</i>
DRIVEMNU.EXE	39,936	DriveMenu executable file
DRIVEMNU.HLP	7,612	Help file providing context help for the DriveMenu Properties dialog

DRIVEMNU.INF	2,104	Setup information file for installing DriveMenu
DRIVEX.DLL	84,992	DriveX Shell Extension Dynamic Link Library
DRIVEX.HLP	9,859	Help file providing context help for the DriveX Properties pages
DRIVEX.INF	2,223	Setup information file for installing DriveX
DRIVETOY.DOC	30,720	The documentation file you are now reading

This software has been carefully programmed and thoroughly tested on various platforms to ensure compatibility with existing hardware and software. However, the following applies:

This software product and the accompanying documentation files are provided "as is". The user shall assume the entire risk of using the software. The author shall not be liable for any damages, incidental or consequential, including, but not limited to, loss of profits, loss of information or business interruption resulting from the use of, misuse of or inability to use the software, even if the author has been advised of the possibility of such damages.

In other words: You don't have to pay me to use this software, so I don't have to pay you if it breaks.

3. Installation and Configuration

System Requirements:

Windows: a 386 PC (or better) running Windows 95 or higher

Windows NT: a 486 PC (or better) running Windows NT 4.0 or higher

Installation:

Windows NT Users: To install the Drive Toys under Windows NT, you must be logged on as a user with administrative privileges (if you do not have administrative privileges on the computer where you are working, ask your system administrator to install the Drive Toys for you). After the installation is complete, you will need to log off and then log back on again. A complete system restart is not necessary.

Installing DriveMenu

Important: DriveMenu should be installed using the procedure described below. Simply copying the files to your hard disk and running DRIVEMNU.EXE is **not** recommended, since the automatic uninstall feature will not be available.

To install DriveMenu, follow these steps:

1. Copy (or extract) the Drive Toys source files to a temporary folder on your hard drive.
2. In the Explorer, open the temporary folder.
3. Click on the file **DRIVEMNU.INF** with the right mouse button to display its context menu.
4. Choose **Install** from the context menu.
5. A DriveMenu shortcut is automatically added to the **StartUp** folder in the **Start** menu. (You may delete this shortcut if you do not want DriveMenu to start automatically when you start Windows.)
6. DriveMenu is now installed.

A note to users running non-English versions of Windows:

By default, the DriveMenu installation adds a shortcut to the StartUp folder. If this folder does not exist, the installation routine creates it. Since the actual name of the StartUp folder is often different on non-English versions of Windows (for example, the StartUp folder in the German version of Windows is called "Autostart"), you will have to manually copy the shortcut from the newly created "StartUp" folder to the proper folder for your language version. You may then delete the folder "StartUp" and its contents.

To configure DriveMenu:

1. Start DriveMenu.
2. Click the DriveMenu icon in the taskbar.
3. Choose **Properties** from the menu.
4. Select the DriveMenu options you wish and then click **OK** or **Apply** to activate the settings. The changes take effect immediately.

To get help for any of the items in the dialog, click the "?" button in the upper right corner of the Properties dialog and then click on the item you want. You can also right click directly on the item to bring up the "What's This?" menu.

Installing DriveX

Important: DriveX **must** be installed using the procedure described below or it will not work.

To install DriveX, follow these steps:

1. Copy (or extract) the Drive Toys source files to a temporary folder on your hard drive.
2. In the Explorer, open the temporary folder.
3. Click on the file **DRIVEX.INF** with the right mouse button to display its context menu.
4. Choose **Install** from the context menu.
5. DriveX is now installed.
6. In the **Explorer** or in **My Computer**, click on any drive with the right mouse button and choose **Properties** from the context menu. In the Properties dialog, you will now see two additional tabs: **Volume Information** and **File System**. These have been added by DriveX.

To get help for any of the items on the DriveX pages or dialogs, click the "?" button in the upper right corner of the dialog and then click on the item you want. You can also right click directly on the item to bring up the "What's This?" menu.

4. Uninstalling

Uninstalling DriveMenu

To completely remove DriveMenu from your computer, follow these steps:

1. Ensure that DriveMenu is not running.
2. Open the Control Panel and double click the **Add/Remove Programs** icon.
4. On the **Install/Uninstall** page, select **DriveMenu Taskbar Application** from the list.
5. Click the **Add/Remove...** button.
6. DriveMenu has now been removed from the system.

Uninstalling DriveX

To completely remove DriveX from your computer, follow these steps:

1. Open the Control Panel and double click the **Add/Remove Programs** icon.
2. On the **Install/Uninstall** page, select **DriveX Drive Properties Shell Extension** from the list.
3. Click the **Add/Remove...** button.
4. If you are prompted to restart Windows to complete the uninstall, do so at this time.
5. DriveX has now been removed from the system.

5. Known Limitations

This software has the following limitations of which the author is aware:

DriveMenu

- The DriveMenu icon is not deleted from the StartUp folder after uninstalling. The shortcut must be manually deleted. This applies only to the shortcut; all files and registry entries are properly removed by the uninstall routine.

DriveX

- Under Windows 95, DriveX will not accurately report disk information for partitions greater than 2 GB. Partitions greater than 2 GB will be reported as having a total capacity of 1.99 GB. This is due to a limitation of the Windows 95 operating system itself. This problem does not occur under Windows NT.

6. Contacting the Author

Feedback is always welcome. If you'd like to comment on the program, submit suggestions for future releases or if you'd like to report a bug you've found, you can contact me at either of the e-mail addresses below:

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Enjoy the Drive Toys!